

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
Atty. Docket No.: P0791

Serial No.: 09/866,568
Filed: May 25, 2001

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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested. The foregoing amendments are responsive to the August 6, 2004 Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the following comments.

Response to the Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,285,092 issued to Kawahara et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,842,027 issued to Oprescu et al.. Each of these claims are canceled herein.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-11, and 13-14 are indicated to contain allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form. Claims 3, 6, 10, and 13 are amended herein to be in independent form, and Claims 4, 7, 11, and 14 depend from these claims. Therefore, Claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-11, and 13-14 are now in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests the same.

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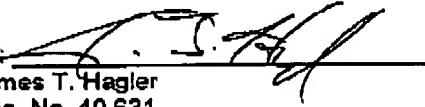
Summary

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit Applicant's Deposit Account (No. 50-2733) for any fees that are currently due. The Commissioner is also authorized to debit any fees due during the pendency of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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